

NUMBER 11,

A Memorial for the erection of a Fort at or near Pembina River.

Feb. 10, 1854

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. The Memorial of the Legislative Assembly of Minnesota Territory respectfully represents: That the Legislative Assembly of this Territory, at its last session, memorialized your Honorable body for the establishment of a military post on the line of 40 degrees north latitude, on or near Pembina river, for the protection of the citizens of the United States, and of the Indians resident within our boundaries. The reasons set forth in that memorial showing the imperative necessity of such a measure, still exist; and in addition thereto, it may be mentioned that an unprovoked attack has been made within a few weeks, by the British settlers of Selkirk Settlement upon a band of Indians living in our Territory, and with a part of whom the General Government has heretofore established treaty relations.

Sec. 2. It is a fact well known among us, and one that has been frequently brought to the notice of your Honorable body, that the settlers of the neighboring British Colony make semi-annual incursions into our Territory, that they slaughter vast numbers of buffalo, and commit acts of hostility upon the Indians, who are under the protection of the United States. And your memorialists respectfully state that a continuance of such outrages will necessarily tend to bring the Government into disrepute with the large and warlike bands of Indians who inhabit Minnesota, and to endanger the peace of the country, thereby retarding and injuring the prosperity of this flourishing Territory.

Sec. 3. Your memorialists again respectfully press upon the attention of your honorable body, the importance of asserting and sustaining the authority of the Government, by the immediate erection and occupation by a military force, of a fort on our northern boundary; and your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

N. C. D. TAYLOR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
S. B. OLMSTEAD,
President of the Council.

APPROVED—February tenth, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

W. A. GORMAN.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
St. Paul, April 4, 1854. }

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct copy of the original memorial on file in this office.

J. TRAVIS ROSSER,

Secretary of Minnesota Territory.